

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY, US
SUBJECT: KYPRIANOU'S COMMENTS ON CLIFFORD

REF: NICOSIA 1268

1. ENGLISH TEXT OF PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S INTERVIEW
IN ELEFTHEROTYPIA HAS BEEN RELEASED HERE BY GOC PUBLIC
INFORMATION OFFICE. QUESTION AND ANSWER REFERRING
TO CLIFFORD AND KARASEK FOLLOW:

BEGIN QUOTE: QUESTION: LET US ASSUME THAT MR. KARASEK
AND MR. CLIFFORD HAVE ACTED OUTSIDE THE ROLE THEY
HAVE UNDERTAKEN IN THE CYPRUS QUESTION, THE FORMER
BY HIS WELL-KNOWN REPORT AND THE LATTER BY HIS
PRO-TURKISH STATEMENT BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE
FOR THE EMBARGO. WHAT ARE YOUR COMMENTS ON THEIR STAND?
ANSWER: WITH REGARD TO MR. KARASEK, I ALREADY
ANSWERED TO YOUR PREVIOUS QUESTION AND I BELIEVE THAT
THE ANSWER I HAVE GAVE GIVES THE TRUE PICTURE OF THE SITUATION.
THIS SHOWS THAT IT IS CERTAINLY VERY DIFFICULT FOR
MR. KARASEK TO BE ANY LONGER USEFUL IN ANYTHING
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CONCERNING THE CYPRUS QUESTION, UNLESS HE HIMSELF FINDS
THE WAY TO RESTORE THINGS AND HIS CREDIBILITY. WITH
REGARD TO MR. CLIFFORD, IT IS VERY STRANGE THAT THE
PERSON DESIGNATED BY PRESIDENT CARTER FOR THE HANDLING
OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION, IN HIS STATEMENT BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE EMBARGO SHOULD HAVE EXPRESSED
HIS VIEWS HAVING AS SOLE CRITERION THE INTERESTS OF

THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AS HE CONCEIVED THEM AND NOT THE CYPRUS QUESTION. IN OTHER WORDS MR. CLIFFORD GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS ONLY CONCERNED ABOUT NATO AND THAT HE WAS CONCERNED WITH THE CYPRUS PROBLEM VERY ACCIDENTALLY. BUT FOR A LONG TIME NOW OUR DISCUSSION AND TALKS WITH THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION WITH REGARD TO THE CYPRUS QUESTION HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT AT THE APPROPRIATE POLITICAL AND SERVICE LEVELS AND NOT SO MUCH WITH MR. CLIFFORD. END QUOTE.

2. ELSEWHERE IN INTERVIEW, PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU REITERATED HIS POSITION ON TURKISH PROPOSALS AND NEED FOR MAINTENANCE OF EMBARGO, EXPRESSED BITTERNESS TOWARD PRESIDENT CARTER FOR CHANGING POSITIONS ON CYPRUS, AND DEFENDED HIMSELF AGAINST CRITICISM FOR PROTESTING TO SOVIET UNION OVER MARSHALL OGARKOV'S REPORTED STATEMENT ON SOVIET-TURKISH MILITARY COOPERATION.
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